

## Message Text

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52

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 RSR-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 EB-11 INT-08

COME-00 TRSE-00 STR-08 OMB-01 SCEM-02 AID-20 CIEP-02

CEA-02 /169 W

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O P R 151215 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1673

DIA

INFO CINCEUR

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 4402

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS PINS, ENRG, ETRN, US, LE

DEPT PASS USINT CAIRO

SUMMARY: TAPLINE EXPORTS RESUMED SUNDAY MORNING BUT MEDRECO  
REFINERY MAY NOT RESUME UNTIL TUESDAY. ARMY HAS TAKEN OVER TAPLINE/  
MEDRECO SECURITY FROM POLICE. RAIDERS STILL NOT IDENTIFIED BUT  
GOL DEFMIN REPORTEDLY HAS SAID THERE NO ISRAELI VESSELS IN AREA.

1. TAPLINE' S DODGE TODAY PROVIDED FOLLOWING : TAPLINE EXPORTS  
RESUMED EARLY SUNDAY MORNING BUT NOW APPEARS THAT, DUE  
CONTAMINATION

SURVIVING MEDRECO CRUDE SUPPLY, REFINERY OPERATIONS, WHICH SUPPLY  
ABOUT 40 PER CENT LEBANESE PETROLEUM REQUIREMENTS, MAY BE DELAYED  
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UNTIL TUESDAY. MEDRECO MUST DRAW FROM TAPLINE TANK FARM BUT MUST FIRST OBTAIN AUTHORITY FROM NEW YORK SINCE ONE OF TAPLINE OWNERS EXXON, IS NOT INVOLVED MEDRECO ( OWNED BY CALTEX/ MOBIL) AND MUST AGREE SURRENDER PORTION ITS TAPLINE ENTITLEMENT, ACCORDING DODGE. ( COMMENT: MEDRECO HAS STOCKS UNTIL TUESDAY, THERE NOT RPT NOT NOW INDICATION OF LOCAL SUPPLY SHORTAGE.)

2. DODGE ALSO REPORTED THAT LEBANESE ARMY HAS TAKEN OVER SECURITY FOR INSTALLATIONS FROM INTERNAL SECURITY POLICE. NOT KNOWN HOW LONG ARMY CAN REMAIN SINCE IT TOLD TAPLINE ITS MANPOWER SPREAD VERY THIN PRESENTLY. DODGE PRIVATELY EXPRESSED DISMAY AT INEFFECTIVE-

NESS POLICE GUARD, SAID THEIR ACTIONS DURING RAID UNDER INVESTIGATION. RAIDERS APPARENTLY BREACHED FENCES NEAR BEACH AND AT INLAND TANK FARM WITHOUT BEING DISCOVERED.

3. AS YET THERE NO OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION OF RAIDERS. WE UNDERSTAND, BUT NOT YET ABLE CONFIRM, THAT GOL DEFMIN ISSUED STATEMENT SAYING THERE NO ISRAELI VESSELS IN AREA AT TIME, RAIDERS CAME FROM NORTH. THIS PRESUMABLY INTENDED REFUTE FEDAYEEN CHARGE THAT ISRAELIS RESPONSIBLE.

COMMENT: DELAY IN RESUMING MEDRECO SUPPLIES MAY IMPRESS ON GOL NEED FOR PROTECTING INSTALLATIONS. DODGE OPINED PRIVATELY THAT IF ALL CHARGES SET HAD EXPLODED TERMINAL WOULD HAVE BEEN DESTROYED, HE NOT CERTAIN TAPLINE OWNERS WOULD HAVE REBUILT IT. BUFFUM

DHAHRAN, JIDDA, LONDON, NICOSIA, TEL AVIV, TRIPOLI, USUN NOTE: MCN WILL FOLLOW OPENING OF BUSINESS 16 APRIL.

NOTE BY OC/ T: NOT PASSED CAIRO.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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DHAHRAN  
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LONDON  
NEA  
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SECSTATE WASHDC

TEL AVIV

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